



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held June 27, 2006, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“Los Angeles County has been critically impacted by the AIDS epidemic, with nearly 30,000 residents who have died from AIDS, more than 20,500 individuals who are known to be living with AIDS, and an estimated 58,000 individuals who are currently living with HIV/AIDS. In 2004, people of color accounted for more than 75% of all diagnosed AIDS cases, and women of color accounted for 80% of AIDS cases reported among women in Los Angeles County.

“HIV counseling and testing are crucial in reaching the estimated 15,000 people in Los Angeles County who are HIV-infected and unaware of their status, and stopping the estimated 2,000 new HIV infections that occur every year. Voluntary counseling, education, testing, referral, and partner notification programs provide people an opportunity to learn their HIV status, receive information about behavior changes necessary to avoid infection and transmission of HIV to others, and obtain referrals to additional preventative and medical care.

“Recent medical advances in HIV treatment show that early diagnosis and treatment can prolong and improve the lives of persons living with HIV and AIDS, yet local studies show that many persons, especially persons of color, are not benefiting from early detection and are being diagnosed with AIDS at the time that they test for HIV. ‘HIV Testing Week’ is a critical component of the County’s Public Health response to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS and promote the health and welfare of County residents through the increased awareness of HIV/AIDS and the promotion of HIV counseling and testing for all at-risk persons.”

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Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Proclaimed June 27 through July 1, 2006 as "HIV Testing Week" throughout Los Angeles County as promoted by the Department of Health Services, Public Health, Office of AIDS Programs and Policy;
2. Urged all community-based organizations and medical providers to recognize the importance of HIV counseling and testing and to lend their full support to the campaign; and
3. Urged all individuals to understand HIV transmission, assess their risk for HIV infection and consider taking an HIV test as appropriate.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Director of Health Services
Acting Director Public Health
Director, Office of AIDS Programs and Policy